India Ltd. (CIL) from Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) for coal supplied, as on 20th February, 1993 were Rs. 304.65 crores. Out of Rs. 171.58 crores were disputed. The disputed accounts were mainly on account of enroute shortages and quality problems.

Following steps are being taken by CIL/Governments to recover these dues:

(i) The Government of India have already decided to adjust all undisputed coal sales outstandings as on 31-5-1990 against the Central Assistance to State plan payable to concerned State Governments.

(ii) Ministry of Coal has advised CIL to start supplying coal to power houses only against the advance payments.

(iii) Recently Ministry of Coal has requested Chairman, MSEB to clear outstanding dues of CIL.

Coal companies are also holding discussions with the Maharashtra State Electricity Board to narrow down the disputes over outstanding dues.

Vacant Post of Director (Marketing) in CIL

2329. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Coal India Ltd. the post of one Director (Marketing) is lying vacant for the last several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to fill the post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir. There is no post of Director (Marketing) sanctioned on the Board of Directors of the Coal India Limited.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Role of CIL in privatisatiin of coal sector

2330. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries have been incurring losses, if so, the total losses incurred so far;

(b) what modalities have been finalised so far for privatisation of coal sector;

(c) what would be the role of CIL and its subsidiaries in the circumstances; and

(d) whether after privatisation, country's requirement would be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As a holding company, Coal India Limited (CIL) together with its subsidiaries has been incurring losses since inception, execpt for the years 1981-82, 1989-90 and 1991-92. The cumulative losses of CIL as at the end of 1991-92 are Rs. 2353.99 crores.

(b) There is no move to privatise Coal India Limited, which is in public sector. However, a Bill to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 has been introduced in the Parliament to provide for mining of coal by private sector for the purpose of captive consumption for power generation, washery operation and other end uses to be notified.

(c) CIL and its subsidiaries even after amenmdment of the Act would

continue to play the role assigned to them since the private sector participation will be limited to areas outside the leasehold of CIL, and for specified purposes only.

(d) Private sector participation would augment the resources required for the growth of core sectors of the economy.

Accidents in coal mines

2331. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI': Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of accidents have taken place in the coal mines during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the causes of such accidents mine-wise and the number of persons who died in each case; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government for prevention of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There have been 116 and 130 fatal accidents involving 120 and 149 fatalities during 1991 and 1992 respectively under the CIL group of mines. The details of the same are as under:—

Causes	No. of fatalities	
	1991	1992
Roof/side fall . .	30	66
Winding in Shaft .	1	2
Transport Machinery	51	46
Other Machinery (CCM Dozer Pump etc.) .	7	8
Explosive . .	5	1
Electricity . .	5	5
Dust Gas etc. .	1	1
Fall of persons and other objects . .	13	13
Misc. . . .	7	7
TOTAL :	120	149

(d) The coal mines under CIL group of mines are worked strictly as per safety provisions contained in Mines Act, 1952 and the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957. Adequate safety measures are provided to workers. Each worker is provided with safety gear such as safety helmets, safety boots, belts, dust masks, self-rescuers etc. They are imparted basic and refresher training in Vocational Training Centres. Presence of noxious gases in underground mines is regularly checked by gas detector. The safety situation is constantly reviewed and monitored at different levels. The Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Minister-in-charge of Cial regularly reviews the overall safety situation in coal mines and recommends short-term and long-term measures to further improve the safety standards in the coal mines.